DRAWS A WHIP ON HIS WIFE'S COUN-SEL AT DIVORCE HEARING.

REGARS AWAT FROM HIS COUNSEL, WHO AT ONCE WITHDRAWS FROM THE CASE-HEAR-

ING HERE PROBABLY ENDED It was a sensationally theatrical and unexpected climax that prematurely and abruptly ended the hearing of the testimony of the defence in the Teall chief actor in the sensational drama, and he prepared to defend the good names of women and his n fair name by producing from his sleeve a rawhide whip, which he said had been made specially for the purpose. Teall read an exceedingly bitter statement, directed at A. W. Seamans, Mrs. Teall's attorney, which be closed with these words:

of you, while I am giving testimony, mention to me the name of any woman, or ask any quesyou in such a way that you will not be liable to another question, or I will be incapacitated

advancing a step toward Mr. Seamans. te as if he would strike his wife's lawver tumped between the men. A more theatrical scene ld not be imagined. Teall stood with his whip soner. His face was glowing with rage. Mr. seamans sat in the chair stoically, and betrayed no en released himself, and crossed to the other side a papers together and refused to continue with much affected by the action of his client, and said afterward that he would have nothing further all concerned

er. Weeks, "and I am sorry for it."
After Miss Jones, the boarding-house keeper, had that of last week, Mr. Seamans called Mr. Teall to answered the questions put to him standing. After saying in answer to Mr. Weeks, who was the first examine him, that he was never at Koster & Rial's with a woman, and calling Marcus H. Schenck a liar for saying that he was, he was asked the had anything to say.

Yes, I have," ne said, looking contemptuously

I object to his making a statement." same lines of cross-examination as with the other witnesses." Teall was allowed by the Commissioner proceed with his statement, which was as fol-

my attorneys have done for me and for others who to state to the Court that the course I am about to pursue is against the wishes and contrary to the dvice of my counsel. There are times, however, when a man must judge for himself, and for what

charge vou. Albert W. Seamans, attorney. No. 16 Exchange Place, New-York City, with lit of bringing the names of innocent women into

so much pain and sorrow to women who have not been able to protect themselves, not the least of whom is Mrs. Teall, your client.

"The whole world has heard what you made Jackson say, and the court records of Rhode Island contain the indelible imprint of your infamy, I propose to place on this same record an arraignment of yourself. Mrs. Teall's principal attorney here in New-York has kept himself in the background. Mr. Ripley, her attorney in Providence, has denied his responsibility in published interview. "You, Seamans, were the tool hired to do the dirty work. You prepared the testimony that was presented in Providence, you coached my old servant Jackson; people ask why I don't shoot Jackson. I will tell you.

"I would as soon think of shooting a horse that some drunken loafer had driven over me. Jackson is poor and old. You met him in his need, and Jackson's perjury was the result. You are a repreach to your profession and a disgrace to manhood. You are a suborner of perjury, and a defamer of women, and now to the point.

snyster lawyers do not understand and which a woman's name as sacred, and protects it heard. I warn you that if you mention the of a single woman or ask a question that will ton any woman I will answer you in such a that you will not be liable to ask another tion, or I will be incapacitated from reply-

question, or I will be incapacitated from replying.

It was at this point that Teall drew the whip from his sleeve, and the scene described followed. William R. Weeks went into his private office and dictated the following statement:

"I was retained in the Teall divorce case by Mr. Teall because the names of innocent women had been brought into the case without their being made co-respondents and because he expressed the wish that he should be represented by some one who would show the highest courtesy to the injured women. Up to this moment I have given as much of my time and abilities as seemed called for by that condition of affairs. His action in taking the law in his own hands to-day at the hearing at my office. No. Il Broadway, cannot be condoned by me and warrants my complete withdrawai from the case. Therefore, I wish it known to the public that I have withdrawn from further connection with the case."

Mr. Seamans refused to say anything more about the occurrence than to deny the sllegations of Teall. "I have." he said. "conducted the case in an orderly and professional way, not alone here, but in the courts. I can't say what I will do as to the future."

It is anotherly that no further testimony of the

It is probable that no further testimony of the efence will be taken in the case until the trial mea up at Providence.

TRYING TO STOP THE NEW-YORK SUIT. Providence, Jan. 12 -- James A. Williams, representing Oliver Sumner Teall, of New-York, filed a along Amsterdam-ave, had not been secured by Il in equity in the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court to-day asking that Mrs. Teall be restrained from prosecuting the divorce case re cently brought by her in New-York until the now pending before the court in this State case how pending before the world of attachment against Mrs. Teall is also prayed for on the ground that she is guilty of contempt of court in having instituted a divorce case in New-York while a case hased on the same grounds was pending in this State. The matter will come before the court on Saturday morning.

TO PREVENT CHARACTER-ASSASSINATIONS. Albany, Jan. 12-Assemblyman Phillips, of New-York, has introduced a bill to cover a state of effairs brought out prominently in the Oliver Sumner Teall divorce suit. He proposes to amend the rode so as to require the counsel for the plaintiff in an action for divorce, where a co-respondent is named, to file an affidavit that on the facts as presented from trustworthy sources there is reasonable ground for belief that the person named is at fault. The effect of this, he thinks, will be to protect the innocent from false and malicious charges which drag them into court, compelling them to defend their reputations in actions to which they are not parties defendant and with which they have no association whatever.

COOGAN LOOKING FOR WORK.

James J. Coogan, the new President of the Borough of Manhattan, issued an invitation yesterday to all those who have grievances, or improvements

to suggest to call on him. He says: In order that the work of improving the various districts of the Borough of Manhattan may be prosecuted intelligently. I deem it advisable that interested in such improvements should be made acquainted with the proper modes of pro-cedure. The initiative should be taken in the office cedure. The initiative should be taken in the office of the President of the Borough of Manhattan. A petition calling for an improvement will receive prompt attention, and the matter will be submitted to the Board of Local Improvements of the district for consideration. I will strive to the extent of my ability to have the recommendations of the Board of Local improvements carried into effect.

I shall be pleased to meet the citizens of the borough at the City Hail, from 10 a.m. to 4 p. m., to discuss any questions relating to improvements of to give any information they may desire relating thereto."

PROBASCO LIBRARY AT AUCTION.

Bangs & Co., No. 91 Fifth-ave, will sell at pub-lic auction on Monday Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of next week, the library of Henry Probasco, of Cincinnati. This comprises many standard works of the best authors, biogdramatists, scientists and travellers, specimens of early and more recent printing, bibliographical works fine arts volumes, collections on botany, forestry are

THE 71ST REGIMENT INQUIRY.

OFFICERS CLAIM THE RIGHT TO BE PRES ENT DURING THE TAKING OF TESTIMONY. After a rest of a week the Board of Inquir which is investigating the complaints of alleged cowardice on the part of Major Clinton H. Smith and Captain John H. Whittle, of the 71st Regiat the Battle of Santiago, resumed its sessions yesterday in the 22d Regiment Armory, at Sixty-sixth-st. and the Boulevard.

They had a session by them it was 12 o'clock before the general session was

Lieutenant I. T. Manning of the 8th Ohio Volunteers, the "President's Own," who was an aid to Brigadier-General Hawkins in the Santiago camand who happened to be in this city, was invited by the Board to testify, and he compiled. He was the first witness yesterday. He carried important orders to the 71st Regiment during the When Lieutenant Manning left the but it was believed to have been in regard to

the conduct of a number of the Tist officers.
Colonel Bartlett, of the Board, admitted that the morning session of the Board had been on the scope of the work to be done in the inquiry in compliance with Governor Roosevelt's orders Lieutenant Robertson took the witness stand and topography of the battle-ground and the time

After recess Captain Hazen was placed on the stand. There is a disposition on the part of some of the officers to be brought into the investigation to protest against some of the methods employed by the Board of Inquiry. These officers say that as they are concerned in the case they should be allowed to employ counsel. They also object to the hearing being held behind closed doors.

Major H. Hollis Wells at 4 o'clock went into e room where the court was holding its inquiry and on behalf of the other officers of the Regiment, demanded the right to sit in the room while the testimony was being taxen. He said that order No. 4 made the inquiry a general one and reflected on all the officers of the regiment. He declared that Captain Meeks was continually he had the right, certainly all the other officers who might be aspersed should tection to Captain Meeks being present, but claimed the same right for all the officers. He presented a to the same effect, signed by nearly all the officers of the regiment.

Colonel Welch was inclined to grant the request, but the other members objected. The court then held an executive session, after which Colon-Weich announced that when the Board began the general investigation it would allow all officers to be present after they had testified. From this is assumed that the court is still on the special investigation touching the charges made against Captain Whittle and Major Smith, and has no as yet begun the general investigation of the whol-presiment.

TO CONTEST MRS. JEROME'S WILL.

DISINHERITED SON WILL MAKE A FIGHT AGAINST THE PROBATING.

Formal notice of contest of the will of Katherine Hall Jerome was yesterday entered in the Surrogate's office by Lawrence Roscoe Jerome, her son, Mrs. Jerome's will was filed for probate several days ago. By its provisions her son, Lawrence herited for "unfilial conduct."

teenth-st., on December 23, last. The value of her estate was estimated at about \$70,000. By her will Mrs. Jerome divided her estate equally between her sons, Judge William Travers Jerome and Lovell

Lawrence Roscoe Jerome charges fraud, unsound mind and undue influence.

wilful and uncontrollable. Finally he left home applied to the section boss for employment as a snow-shovelier at \$2 a day. He got a job, and for many days worked in the streets. One day he was with the gang that shovelled snow in front of his

THE FIGHT AGAINST FOUR TRACKS.

RAILROAD COMPANY REQUIRED TO SHOW CAUSE WHY IT SHOULD NOT STOP ITS WORK IN AMSTERDAM-AVE

Justice Giegerich yesterday, in the Supreme Court, Manhattanville and St. Nicholas Avenue Railroad Company to show cause why a temporary injune tion should not issue, pending the trial of the action already brought to restrain the company from continuing the work begun on changing its motive power to electricity in Amsterdam-ave. John C. Coleman, of No. 100 Broadway, and John Alexander Beall, appeared as counsel and attorney for St. Michael's Protestant Episcopal Church, the plaintiff in the case.

The order is merely the first in a series of steps planned by the Amsterdam Avenue Property-own-Association in its fight with the Third Avenue Railway Company, to prevent the operation of that company's tracks by electricity in Amsterdam-ave., two tracks of the Metropolitan Street Railway Company already conducting cars by elec-tricity through that thoroughfare. The grounds on which the application for the order issued yesterday were based were, in the main, that the consent of 50 per cent of the owners of property along Amsterdam-ave had not been secured by the railroad company, or, if the needful consent had been obtained, it was not valid by reason of the lack of necessary formalities. The complaint further alleged that the operation of four tracks by electricity would be exceedingly dangerous to life and limb, and that the fee and rental value of property along the avenue would be seriously damaged by the proposed installation of electricity. John McLean Nash, treasurer of the Columbia University trustees, denied to a Tribune reporter yesterday, that Columbia University had ever given to the Third Avenue Railway Company consent to make the change of motive power to electricity. The Amsterdam Avenue Property-owners' Association had in some way acquired the idea that such consent had been given by Columbia, and that such consent had been given by Columbia, and at a recent meeting of the association, the trustees of the University were denounced for their supposed action.

Edward Lauterbach, counsel for the Third Avenue Railway Company, yesterday afternoon said that the papers in the case had not yet been said that the papers in the case had not yet been

tees of the University were denounced for their supposed action.

Edward Lauterbach, counsel for the Third Avenue Rallway Company, yesterday afternoon said that the papers in the case had not yet been served, but that they would probably be served this morning. The Third Avenue company would show cause, he said, why the injunction should not be issued. The order is returnable January 17.

FIRST PANEL'S ANNUAL FEAST.

SHERIFF'S JURYMEN TO HAVE THEIR DINNER AT THE SAVOY HOTEL.

The annual dinner of the First Panel, Sheriff's Jury, will be held to-morrow evening at the Savoy Hotel. In point of attendance the dinner will be the largest the panel has yet held. No fewer than 260 acceptances have been received, and it is likely that these will be increased to three hundred before to-

Augustus Thomas will preside, while the speakers will be United States District-Attorney Beck, of Philadelphia; John S. Wise, of Virginia; the Rev. Dr. Slicer, Simon Ford and the Rev. Dr. Van De Waier.

The arrangements of the dinner are in charge of a committee comprising John J. Harrington, Charles C. Safford, Edward S. Innet, J. Seaver Page, Frank E. Conover, Patrick Mechan and Andrew Miller.

FOR CONSULAR REFUNA.

The Merchants' Association of this city has received the following letter from the Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce:

Chamber of Commerce:

The Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce, recognizing the importance of effective service in the consular offices representing our Government in its influence for the promotion of the industrial interests of our country, joins in commending the passage of the measure pending in Congress, known as H. R. bill No. 10,524. Report No. 1460, entitled "A Bill to Increase the Efficiency of the Foreign Service of the crease the Efficiency of the Foreign Service of the Linted States and to Provide for the Beorganization of the Congular Service," it being believed that such a measure would be promotive of improvement in results of such service.

The bill referred to is a bill which was introduced works fine arts volumes, collections on botany, forestry etc.

Among the noteworthy books to be offered are: Walton's polyglot Bible, in eight volumes, bine morocco: Hakluyt's "Voyages," three volumes, follo, red levant morocco, and Count Grammont's "Memoirs," on veilum.

The bill referred to is a bill which was introduced in the present session of Congress by Mr. Adams, of the pennsylvania, who is one of the members of the Committee on Foreign Affairs. The Merchants' Association has been in communication with all the sociation has been in communication with all the soc

THE NAVAL PERSONNEL BILL.

REPRESENTATIVE DAYTON ANSWERS PARK BENJAMIN'S OBJECTIONS

THE ORIGIN OF THE BILL ITS ADVOCATES, ITS PURPOSES AND EXPECTED RESULTS.

To the Editor of The Tribune. My attention has been called to an article entitled "What Is the Naval Personnel Bill?" con-tributed to a recent issue of "The Independent" by Park Benjamin. In this article severe criticism is directed not only against this bill, but against the notives which its writer alleges influenced the off through whose efforts this measure has been who is proud of our gallant fleet and eager for its of the House of Representatives. I have a strong I ask, therefore, space in your columns for a brief reply to the assertions of Mr. Benjamin?

was Assistant Secretary (now Governor) Roosevelt. Among the members of this board were Rear-Ad inshield, Captain Robley D. Evans and Lieutenant-Commander Wainwright, all officers of more than try during periods ranging from thirty-four to the strong approval of John D. Long, Secretary of the Navy. Recently there have appeared in prin dore Melville, Commodore Philip, of Texas fame, as Wilson, an expert in matters pertaining to the naval personnel, and my colleague on the Naval Committee of the House of Representatives, George

With this array of expert witnesses it seems bu which, on this subject, can alone give weight to Mr. Benjamin's opinions. In Hamersley's ord" this service is given as extending through but five years and four months as midshipman and ensign, and as ending thirty years ago, on January 19, 1869. Since his resignation there has en a revolution in the materiel and in the duties of the personnel of navies. There remains only an obsolete organization, which it is the purpose of this bill to sweep away. Of the changes which have come with steam, steel and electricity, Mr. Benjamin seems unaware. Remembering but the brief naval experience of his youth, a generation

The leading feature of the Personnel amaigamation of the line and engineer officers of line, which shall perform the duties of both the present corps. Mr. Benjamin begins his argument nisstatement, upon the Engineer Corps of cers as 188, that of line officers as 465, and states that the engineers form about 19 per cent of all the that the number of engineer officers in the ser vice during recent years has been gravely inadequate to the work required of that corps. Naval Register" for July, 1885, amply shows this in its record of 188 engineer officers and 716 line offi-cers among a total of 1.251 commissioned officers on the active list. It will be seen, therefore, that the umber of officers; that there are 716, not 465, line officers, and that the proportion of line to engineer officers is 3.8-not 2.5, as Mr. Benjamin would have

WORK THE ENGINEERS DO NOT DO.

ous and absurd process of elimination, in showing neer Corps solely to "the design and actual management of the propelling machinery of warships." little knowledge of the United States Naval Regplations might have made Mr. Benjamin pause in , states that the senior engineer "shall, from time o time, make inspections of steam machinery under the cognizance of other bureaus, and report his judgment, may be needed. He shall have im-In his notice of contest he alleges that the will is not the last will of his mother, and its execution was not free, unconstrained and voluntary; that at the time of the execution his mother was of unsound mind and that fraud, circumvention and undue influence were used. His attorney is J. W. Jacobson, of No. 346 Broadway. other bureaus" referred to are represented on "other bureaus" referred to are represented on shipboard by officers of the line, who handle this machinery in action, but who are not trained in a knowledge of its construction and repair. The field of the United States naval engineer on shipboard covers the repair and maintenance of all machinery there. To this corps is due, then, with regard to machinery, the fact that in the recent war our ships were able to answer every call in all departments, that of ordnance as well as that of propulsion.

Island side the same sort of churches support three hospitals, two orphan asylums and three homes. Hence, when the statesman of the future shall set out to reform the system of taxation, he will doubtless conclude that they are sufficiently taxed of their own volition. Had I more of the necessary data I could make my answer to "J. A. H." much more comprehensive, but I have given enough to show that, probably, "justice" does not demand the taxation of churches appropriately. shipboard by officers of the line, who handle this

Again, Mr. Benjamin discourses on the use of nilitary titles in referring to staff officers of the Navy, and has the andactry to insinuate that bor-rowed plumes are worn by such men as Commodore Melville, the Engineer-in-Chief of the Navy. the leading figure in an Arctic expedition whose heroism was as lofty as its suffering was deep; by Lieutecant Hobson, who sank the Merrimac in Santlago Harbor, and by Lieutenant Peary, who is now making his slow way northward over the great ice. As to this, it may be said that the professional tities of these officers-as chief enginaval constructor or civil engineer-mark their grade, while the military title designates their rank. An act of Congress, approved March 3, 1871 provides for the issue of new commissions to staff "in which commissions the titles (captain, ommander, etc.) and grades (chief engineer, pay director, medical director, etc.) herein established shall be inserted." The parentheses here are mine. In accordance with this act, the commis-sions issued to staff officers specify the grade of the officer, his relative rank and military title.

THE ENGINEERS NOT ALONE. Again Mr Bentamin says:

For some thirty years the engineers, as a body, have persistently elsimed that their particular services have not been properly recognized. In this they have stood alone, and have not been joined by the civil engineers, the naval constructors, the surgeons, the paymasters, the chapians or the professors of mathematics, who form the other staff corps of the Navy. Up to the beginning of the late war, their demand was that they be given "absolute" rank, etc.

The error in this statement, that in the demand for positive ("absolute") rank the Engineer Corps has "stood alone," is so colossal as to remove all doubt that it is deliberate. The line and staff strife has been so bitter and so prolonged as to be familiar, in its general trend to every intelligent man in this country. In the hearings on the Personnel bill the chairman of the House Naval Committee, Mr. Boutelle, of Maine formerly a line officer, said:

My experience in the Navy was hat that feeling of jealousy was manifested five times by the paymasters and doctors, where it was manifested once by the engineers.

As I write, there lie before me a circular headed "Claims of the Naval Staff" (issued in reference to the Act of 1871, above referred to, and embodying the claims of all staff corps); a further circular, under date of April 27, 1882, on the same subject, and signed by five medical officers, five pay officers, five engineer officers, one professor of mathematics, one civil engineer and one naval constructor; and, finally, a report from the Committee on Naval Affairs of the House, dated February 25, 1886, showing that positive rank was asked for and given medical officers by the provisions of the bill, then under consideration, for the reorganization of the Navy. The literature on this subject is voluminous, and it is needless to multiply examples. The imperative necessity for this prolonged agitation for positive rank, not by the engineer officers only, but by all staff corps, is shown by the extreme limits to which decisions against the value of relative rank have gone ing carried, in a recent case, to the placing of commissioned staff officers under the command of enlisted men. It is needless to say that the passage of the Personnel bill will remove all com-plaint on this score, and that I refer to these matters with regret, in answer only to words which, in malice or ignorance, are directed against the success of this measure.

Passing over Mr. Benjamin's ascertion that "the majority of the line officers in the Navy" have "always" opposed this claim for rank as "needless and subversive to discipline" (which, in view of the wholly contrary experience in the Army, would be interesting, if true), and his further petty characterization of the line officer on deck as an "officer" and the engineer officer below as a 'person," we find him saying as to the proposed

This assertion is wholly contrary to the facts in the case. The records of the Board which drafted the Personnel bill show that the engineer officers came before it with a proposition for an adequat increase in their corps, for positive rank, and for military title-not in place of, but in connection tion had prevailed, an engineer officer, whose rank officially as "Lieutenant John Smith, Enginee posed was simply the system which has existed for years, and without friction, in the staff corps The records of the Board show however, that the line members, as a body. gainst the proposal, thus defeating it; and that line officer, Captain Robley D. Evans, offered in a line officer. Caprain Robley D. Evans, offered in lieu of it the proposition for amagamation of the two corps, which later was incorporated in the bill. Amaigamation is, then, a line proposition, and there is no evidence to prove that the "extreme advocacy" of engineer officers in the matter exceeds that of their brothers of the line. A little experience in Washington on this point would give Mr. Benjamin some valuable and necessary lessons.

Mr. Benjamin then proceeds to attack the reasoning of the various writers who, in the December number of "The North American Review," advocated the passage of this bill.

THE PROVISION AGAINST STAGNATION

THE PROVISION AGAINST STAGNATION. Mr. Benjamin's views on the section of the bill which provides against stagnation in promotion are on a par with his statements as to amalgama-tion. Although it is the product of careful thought by some of the most distinguished officers of the Navy, he describes it as "so bare of ingenuity that very little comment on it is necessary," and com-He admits the stagnation in certain grades necessary to remove it, and objects to the expense thereby entailed. It is useless to attempt an answer to such statements. It need only be said that a proper flow of promotion is produced, in age in various grades; that the expense entailed

all great navies but our own, by retirements to age in various grades; that the expense entailed by these retirements is the price these nations pay for securing officers of command rank in full mental and physical vigor; and that the scheme proposed in the Personnel bill celecting certain officers to be retired, not others to be advanced eliminates many objectionable features which attend the systems prevailing in other navies.

Mr. Benjamin closes his article with a remarkable argument in favor of the passage of the bill, which is, in effect, that so far as his "observation has extended" the majority of line officers favor it only because "it is the only measure in support of which the Navy has ever been united." This, he says, is probably true, and because of this contention and this contention only, if it be accepted as sound, the bill should pass. This contention, it may be remarked is in effect a charge that such men as Colonel Roosevelt, Admital Sampson, Commodore Melville, Capatin Evans and Commander Wainwright have deliberately drafted and are advocating a bill which sacrifices the best interests of the Navy and the Nation to the attainment of harmony and the removal of stagnation in naval promotion. Mr. Benjamin would have far to seek in our country to-day to find believers in the charge which his words imply sgainst such men.

ALSTON G. DAYTON.

Representative, Hd West Virginia District. House of Representatives, Washington, Jan. 7, 1899.

WHY CHURCHES SHOULD NOT BE TAXED. To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: In your issue of yesterday I find a lette wherein the writer answers the question offhand in the affirmative. He complains that \$100,000,000 000 worth of real estate in the city of New-York is the interest of individual holders of real estate.

hurches were doing anything to justify their exemption from taxation, and this led me to a little church in Fifth-ave. for 1856. The church shull be nameless-I will simply say that it is probably one able to pay taxes than individual holders of real that year, I found this item: "For charities, of \$369.02. I know nothing of the value of this particular church property, but at this distance it is as though the city made money by exempting the same from taxation, for the municipal expenses are certainly reduced by whatever amount the churches expend for the poor. The churches of a certain faith in New-York support four hospitals, five orphan assums and ten homes. On the Long

"SHOULD CHURCHES BE TAXED?"

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: In your paper of to-day "J. A. H.," under

the above caption, makes a plea for the taxation of churches, but seems to be oblivious to certain First-The vast majority of the people are direct-

y or indirectly connected with the churches. Hence the taxation of churches would only mean that the diminution of direct tax burden on dividuals would approximately have to be made up by the same individuals in the way of increased support of the Church to enable it to pay the taxes

support of the Church to enable it to pay the taxes from which they had been excused. This would only be taking out of one pocket a sum tufficient to counterbalance what was put into the other. Cut bono! But the added machinery necessary to the taxation of churches would cost something, and this, in the end, would slightly increase the burden of the individual.

The case of the few persons who are indifferent or bostile to the Church falls under a principle similar to that which taxes for school age or who prefer to educate their children in pricate schools. Second—Churches are not an investment, but a divestment. The taxation of property may only be equitably laid upon investment either upon the capital value or the income from it, as the theory of taxation may be, and never upon divestment. If a man gives a sum of money to found a school or a library that higher and more skilful service of society may be possible to a larger number of people, or if he founds a hospital to diminish human suffering and convert burdensome unfortunates into productive members of society, it is not an investment, but a divestment. A tax upon the school or the hospital would diminish its power

CAN'T GET ALONG WITHOUT THE TRIBUNE.

To the Editor of The Tribune Sir: We cannot get along without The Tribus We have tried to, since election, and have tried This is candid. We have seven children une. This is candid. We have seven children, all readers, five at home and two in Syracuse University. We lay down quite a number of papers in our home every week; there is nothing trashy among them, and it is interesting to see the children choose, as bees choose flowers, because of their interest. The Tribune is a favorite with all. The Rev. J. H. BOYCE.

Pleasant Mount, Penn., Dec. 31, 1838.

WORKINGMEN'S TOOLS IN STREETCARS.

To the Editor of The Tribune. paper in reference to cars for the poor workmen burdens of work to their different places of toll? Why should not some provision be made for such, coman's, or the smoker's. Why cannot the car woman's, or the smoker's. Why cannot the ca proprietors arrange certain times a day, when the workmen are going to and coming from their work to take them and their tools, no matter what the are, on them? It is cruel, in my estimation, t leave them without help in this way these col-and stormy mernings. So ne provision ought to be made for them these uncomfortable days, when many are weakened by colds, and the cars could be placarded to that effect, so they could know them, the same as the smoking-cars. New-York, Jan. 9, 1899.

A WOMAN.

COMMON PROPERTY IN AN EPIGRAM.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Bir: The "famous epigram" referred to in the letter of "F." in this morning's Tribune, is merely one mode of expressing one of the many trite say sigs that have for generations been current in New-England, and probably in other parts of the Very likely many of these "sayings" may have come from the mother country with the "A man who does not make mis takes does not make anything," is merely another form of the saying that "those who do little make no mistakes"; another frequent expression is no mistakes; another frequent control of the contro dividual, especially no one now living ited with the making of the epigrum. New-York, Jan. 9, 1899.

THE SAVINGS BANK SURPLUS.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Is it not time that the arm of the press was raised in behalf of the poor savings bank depositors of the State of New-York? These institutions, with over \$150,000,000 surplus in the State of New-York alone, refuse to share any part of the earnngs of this great surplus with the average poor depositors, but, on the contrary, press them down

New-York, Dec. 28, 1898.

APPLICATIONS FOR REDUCTIONS.

TAX DEPARTMENT OFFICES.

Hundreds of property-owners went to the offices of the Tax Department yesterday to ascertain how high their property had been assessed and to apply for blanks which they will use in filing applications for reductions. The Tax Commissioners will soon have some thousands of such applications to pass upon, to judge from the rush of taxpayers who are making inquiries at the offices every day. It is necessary for each property-owner who thinks that of taxation to make, first, application to the missioners for a reduction in the valuation, and if he Commissioners refuse his application he can

Notices have been sent out from the Tax Depart-ment to thousands of persons in the city who have ment to thousands of persons in the city who have no personal property subject to taxation, calling upon them to show cause why they should not pay personal taxes, and for some time to come there will he a rush of such persons to the offices of the Commissioners to swear off the payment of personal taxes. The Commissioners have not given out information as to the amounts of personal property they have issued notices for, but the sum runs into the millions and probably will dwindle to a small figure when the swearing off is completed.

President Feitner of the Tax Department said yesterday: "I have had visits from many real estate cealers and others, who congratulated us on the fairness of the assessments for 1889. They declared fairness of the assessments for 1889. They declared

fairness of the assessments for 1899. They declared that the assessments are eminently fair and just, and that the Department had fulfilled an operous duty with credit and with justice to the public." Mr. Feitner did not mention the names of any taxpayers who were pleased.

BIGGEST SCHOONER AFLOAT.

LAUNCH OF THE FIVE MASTER JOHN R. PRES. COTT AT ROCKLAND, ME.

Rockland, Me., Jan. 12 -The five-masted schooner John B. Prescott, the largest of her kind afloat, was successfully launched from H. M. Bean's shipvard here to-day. The vessel was named by Miss Fannie Prescott, of Webster, Mass., who strewed flowers on her deck instead of breaking a bottle The schooner, which has been nearly eight months in the builder's hands, cost about She is fitted with the latest improvements. The chief dimensions are: Length of keel, 282 feet The chief dimensions are bright of a large of depth, 21:11 feet; beam, 4:45 feet; length over all, 4:10 feet. Each of the five masts is 112'5 feet in height, the topmasts 55 feet and the fibboom 77 feet, all being of Oregon pine. The vessel has a carrying capacity of 4:20 tons, and will spread 10:000 yards of canves when under full sail. Captain J. E. Crowley, of Taunton, Mass., one of the principal owners of the vessel, is the commander.

DECISIONS IN SWISS EMBROIDERY CASES. At the Custom House yesterday it was learned that decisions in two of the one hundred or more cases of alleged undervaluation of St. Gall (Swiss)

charged certain importers with fraud sever

ANOTHER GREENGOODS CASE

THE JERSEY CITY MANAGER OF THE WESTERN UNION AGAIN ARRESTED.

John B. Bertholf, manager of the Western Un again arrested late yesterday afternoon on charge of knowingly transmitting greengoods dis-patches. The complaint was made by Chief Mur-Reuben Percival, a stationer, of Ithaca, N. Y. Por-House, where he was for two days in November. Percival was instructed to send a dispatch by th Western Union "Tell brother I am coming" and sign "A. Abbott." This he dia, and received a reply directing him to go to the Grand Union Hotel, New-York, and remain there until called on, and to send on his departure a telegram "Tell brother I'll be there." These are the customary

Percival sent the message from Ithaca on Satur day, but signed his own name instead of Abbott, and arrived at the hotel ou Monday. He became impatient on Tuesday, and, complying with the letter of instruction, sent a message by the Westers Union from the hotel, "No communication," but on Wednesday he sent a message asking the West ern Union office at Jersey City if his message had been delivered. No answer was sent, and, falling the Pennsylvania House for Garland, and the pro prictor advised him to see Chief of Police Murphy, which Percival did. After the Calef had taken his complaint was made and a warrant issued.

Bertholf was arrested by Detective Doyle. The

prisoner's counsel, Senator Allan L. McDermott, was summoned, and declared that there was no reason why Bertholf should be held; that he could not by law disclose the contents of dispatches, and the company must transmit telegraph messages filed with it, and that it could not be proven that these were greengoods dispatches until a green-Chief Murphy stated that the forms of the med

sages were familiar ones used by the swindlers, and

were similar to those embodied in the indictments recently found against the company and Bertholf.

The accused manager, being under \$2,500 ball to answer the indictment, was paroled in the custody of nis counsel. Percival was held as a witness in default of \$500 ball. of his counsel. Percival was held the default of \$500 ball.

Chief Murphy will again go before the Grand Jury and have Percival called to show that despite the indictments the company is still transmitting measures and alding and abetting the greengoods swindlers. When Percival informed Chief Murphy that he was a stationer and newsdealer, the Chief asked him if he did not read the papers. The Ithacan replied: "I do not have time to read the papers." He had \$180 with him to invest.

MADE A NEEDLE-CUSHION OF HER BODY.

HOW A YOUNG WOMAN PUNISHED HERSELF IN

Chicago, Jan. 12.-A remarkable case of torture, as a punishment for sins or fancled sins, has been brought to light here. Lens Waishlager, a young woman who came to this country from Germany about a year ago, is in the hospital recovering from an operation which was undertaken to remore a needle embedded in the walls of her stomach. The needle was the third to be removed from the young woman's body, two others having been taken out last March. The Röntgen ray has revealed the presence of seven more.

Miss Walshiaeger says that two years ago she

was an inmate of a convent in Germany, where she had been put by her mother, when the latter frequently broke the rules of the institution according to her story, was told by one of the priests in the convent to prick herself with a needle for each breach of propriety. The girl tried failed her, so she arranged a number of needles in the beit of her skirt-waist in such a manner that the sharp points would pierce her whenever she

moved.

She endured this, she says, for several months, then, unable to bear it longer, ran away, and, with the aid of friends, came to Chicago, where her mother lives. It is the theory of physicians that the needles worked their way into the young woman's flesh while she was punishing herself in this novel manner. After the seven needles aiready discovered are removed, another skingraph will be taken to determine if any more needles remain in her body. A CALL TO THE REV. D. J. M'MILLAN. The Rev. Duncan J. McMillan has received a call

from the New-York Presbyterian Church, hundred-and-twenty-eighth-st. and Seventh-ave. His home is at No. 28 West One-hundred-and-twen-ty-eighth-st., and he has been engaged in mission work. The former pastor was the Rev. Dr. John R. Paxton. CENTRAL FREIGHT TRAINS IN COLLISION.

Two southbound freight trains of the New-Tork Central Railroad came into collision at 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon, at One-hundred-and-forty-sixth-st, and the Hudson River. Three cars and a caboose were smashed. No one was injured. The damage is unknown. BOY PREACHER TO BE STOPPED.

Agent Barkley, of the Gerry society, said yesterthat the colored boy. Lawrence Dennis, five years old, of No. 334 West Thirty-seventh-st., who by the Board of General Appraisers. It was unofficially declared that in one case the Board had ordered the advance of duty over the original invoice returned. The Board's decision in the second case was not learned.

It was in connection with the importation of

## TEN CENTS FOR A BLOCK.

## What Chief Bonner Offered for a Burning Building-A Man Whose Life Was Not Worth a Dollar.



"I would not give ten cents for that block." So said Chief Bonner of the New York Fire Department during the great

conflagration in that city on Sunday night, December 4th, 1898. In the midst of the howling gale and falling rain the men fought like the Old Guard at Waterloo, and in the end with far better success. Yet there were moments of intense doubt and anxiety. But before daylight broke on the wild scene, the Commander of the little army of rescue drew a deep breath of reliefhe had the situation in the palm of his hand.

So far as we know, men have always been fighting disease—which is a worse affliction than fire-have been trying to understand it and suppress it. What have we learned? We have not learned everything, but we have learned much. We can help all aliments; some we can cure. Sufferers from disease want help, no matter what it is, or where it comes from,

That is why people are continually writing such letters as these: Dear Sir-"You will remember my describing in a former letter how terribly I suffered from chronic kidney trouble and how hopeless my condition was at that time. I had consulted doctor after doctor, from general practitioners to eminent spe ists, with one uniform result. They looked wise and talked well, but they did not help me. But I wanted what all sufferers want-relief, not reasons."

"In my other letter I said I would not take one hundred thousand dollars for what your great discovery had done for me. To-day I say I would not take a million dollars for what Warner's Safe Cure did for me. When I took the first dose, I was so full of despair of my future, that I would not have given a dollar for my chances in this world. Yet because of this medicine only, life is as sweet and precious to me as to any other man." (Signed) J. O. COLLINS, Farmville, Va.

January 31st, 1898, Reader, do not give yourself up for drowned until there is no spar to cling to. If in the big New York fire Chief Bonner had been able to buy the threatened block for ten cents, he would now be the luckiest real estate holder in the country. If Mr. collins had sold himself for a dollar at the time of his despair, he would have been a very foolish man. Take no counsel with doubt and despair. The greatest configurations are put out with perseverance and water, and dangerous diseases yield to Warner's Safe Cure.